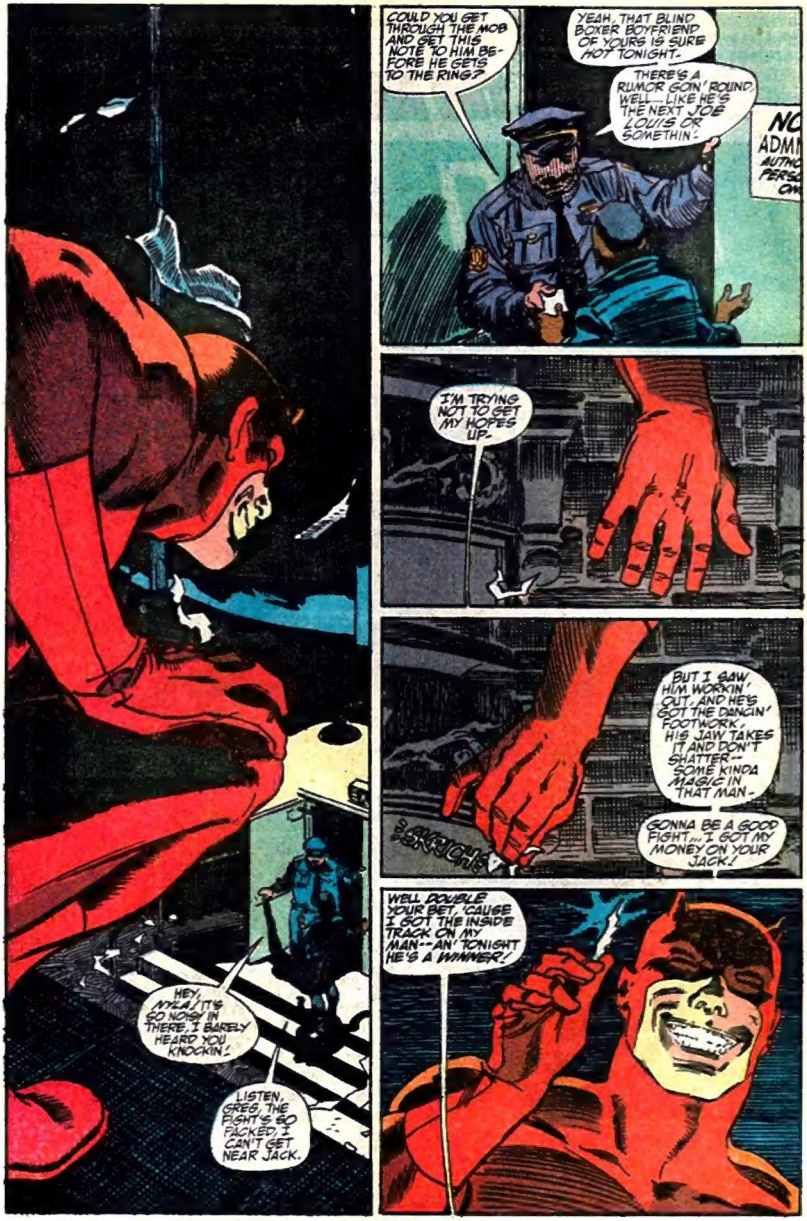
MARVEL COMICS
DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!
LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE!
$1.00 US
$1.25 CAN
289
FEB
UK 60p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
50 YEARS OF CAPTAIN AMERICA
1941 – 1991

A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT STOLE HIS SIGHT, BUT, INCREDIBLY, IT ENDOWED YOUNG MATT MURDOCK WITH RADAR VISION AND HEIGHTENED SENSES. ARMED ONLY WITH HIS ATHLETIC PROWESS, BILLY CLUB, AND INDOMITABLE COURAGE, MATT BATTLES INJUSTICE AS A CRIMSON-CLAD GLADIATOR!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: **DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!**

DAREDEVIL Vol. 1, No. 289, February, 1991. (ISSN# 0279-8271) Published by MARVEL COMICS. Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1990 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.00 per copy in the U.S. and $1.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $12.00, Canada $17.00, and foreign $24.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DAREDEVIL (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DAREDEVIL, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 9TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Printed in the U.S.A.**


COULD YOU GET THROUGH THE MOB AND GET THIS NOTE TO HIM BEFORE HE GETS TO THE RING?
YEAH. THAT BLIND BOXER BOYFRIEND OF YOURS IS SURE HOT TONIGHT.
THERE'S A RUMOR GOIN' ROUND. WELL... LIKE HE'S THE NEXT JOE LOUIS OR SOMETHIN'.
I'M TRYING NOT TO GET MY HOPES UP.
BUT I SAW HIM WORKIN' OUT. AND HE'S GOT THE DANCIN' FOOTWORK. HIS JAW TAKES IT AND DON'T SHATTER-- SOME KINDA MAGIC IN THAT MAN.
SKRICH
GONNA BE A GOOD FIGHT... I GOT MY MONEY ON YOUR JACK!
WELL DOUBLE YOUR BET, 'CAUSE I GOT THE INSIDE TRACK ON MY MAN--AN' TONIGHT HE'S A HAMMER!
HEY, NYLA, IT'S SO NOISY IN THERE, I BARELY HEARD YOU KNOCKIN'.
LISTEN, GREG, THE FIGHT'S SO PACKED, I CAN'T GET NEAR JACK.

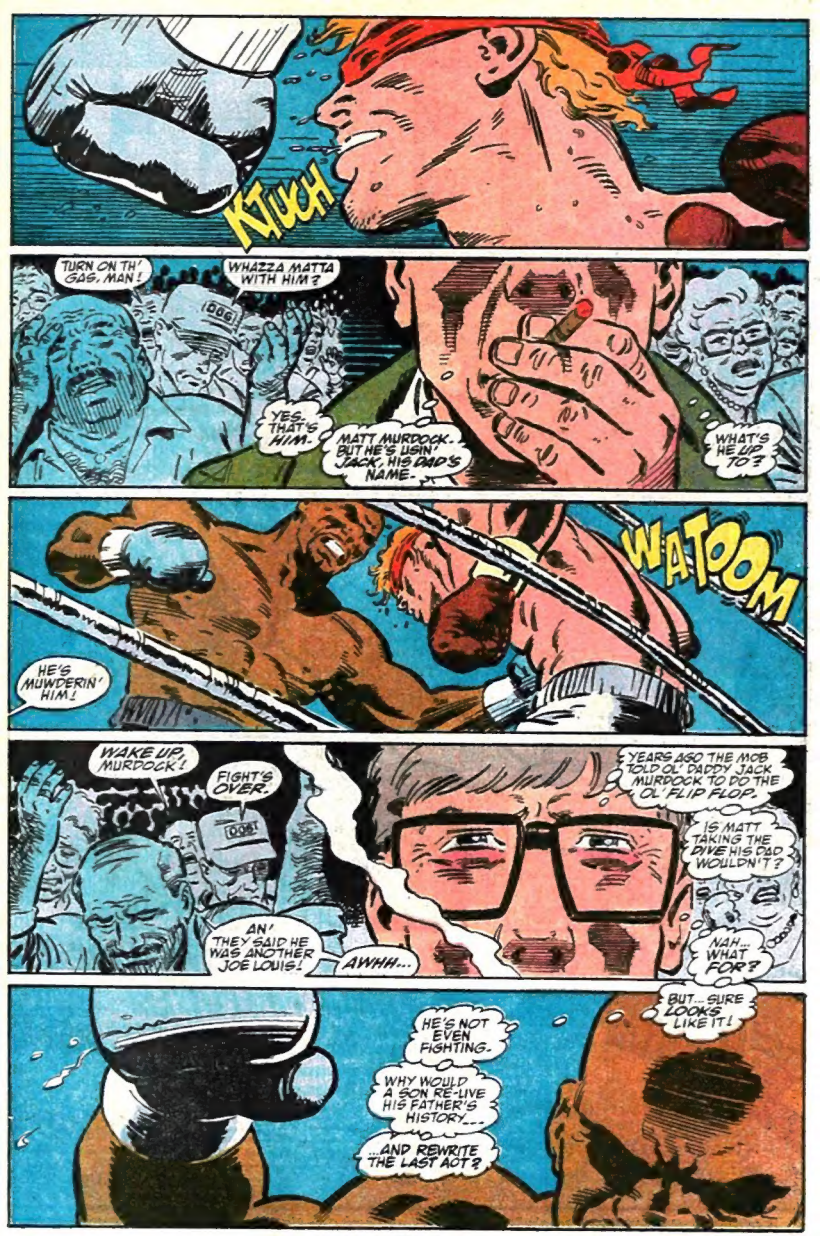
HEH HEH HEH.
THANKS FOR THE TIP, NYLA.
HE'LL GET THIS NOTE.
BAM
THANKS GREG. BYE.
TANCE
RIZED
NNEL
LY
WOOSH
THUNK
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU--WHO--YOU!
DAREDEVIL!
BUT THE PAPERS! THE PAPERS SAY YOU'RE A KILLER!
YOU BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ KID?
TELL ME, WHERE'S YOUR MAGIC MAN? WHERE ARE THOSE DANCIN' FEET AN' POWER PUNCHES NOW?

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM AT NEW YORK'S MADISON SQUARE GARDEN...
FORGET IT, COACH!
I FEEL LIKE BUSTIN' YOU ONE, NOW! HOW DARE YOU TELL ME TO THROW A FIGHT?!
I DON'T CARE IF THEY SAID THEY'D BREAK YOUR LEGS AN' YOUR MOTHER'S LEGS!!
WAM
JACK MURDOCK WOULD RATHER DIE THAN THROW A FIGHT!
I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY, I KNOW YOU'RE RIGHT, CRIPES, I'M SORRY.
BUT THEY THREATENED ME, JACK, I GOT SCARED... I KNOW IT'S WRONG... I'LL STAND BY YOU AN' ALL...
BUT, MAN, THE FREAKY THING IS, FIFTEEN YEARS AGO THERE WAS THIS GREAT FIGHTER WITH THE SAME NAME AS YOU, BATTLIN' JACK MURDOCK!
HE REFUSED TO THROW A FIGHT AND THEY SHOT HIM!
BATTLIN' JACK--
BATTLIN' JACK MURDOCK...
SO WHAT?!
YOU KNOW WHAT? I'M GONNA WIN THIS FIGHT-- WIN IT FOR THAT OLD DEAD BOXER WITH THE SAME NAME AS ME!
THANKS, COACH! YOU GOT ME SO MAD I'M ALL PUMPED UP!
SLAM

AN' IN DIS CORNAH--
JACK MURDOCK-- THE BLIND BOXER!
WHOOF
YAY!
HEY JACK, YOUR GIRL GAVE ME THIS NOTE!
READ IT TO ME!
M'MAN! M'MAN!
IT SAYS-- "GOOD LUCK, I'M OUT THERE WATCHIN' YOU", AN' THEN IT SAYS--
"I LOVE YOU!" HEY YA HEAR THAT, JACK?
YUP.
TING
BOOOSH
YEAH!
HE'S A BULL!
GIVE 'IM TH' LEFT!
DAT'S IT!!

MAKE 'IM CRY!
USE COMBOS
CUT 'IM DOWN!!
CREAM PUFF
HE CAN'T HURT YOU!
FINISH THE JERK!
KEEP MOVIN'
GIT 'IS GUT!!
WHAT'D I SAY?
HE'S GOT 'IM!
TING

JACK! LISTEN UP!
YOU GOT A NOTE FROM YOUR GIRL--
I KNOW, COACH.
SHE LOVES ME.
THE BLIND BOXER
NO, JACK, I TOLD YOU THESE GUYS WERE TOUGH--
--IT'S ANOTHER NOTE; THEY TOOK HER! THEY TOOK NYLA!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "TOOK HER"?
KIDNAPPED HER, JACK! YOU GOTTA THROW THE FIGHT--!
TING
IF YOU DON'T, THEY KILL HER!
JACK--LOOK OUT!
POOM
SNEAK PUNCH!
AIIIEEE!
AW, C'MON BLIND BOXER!

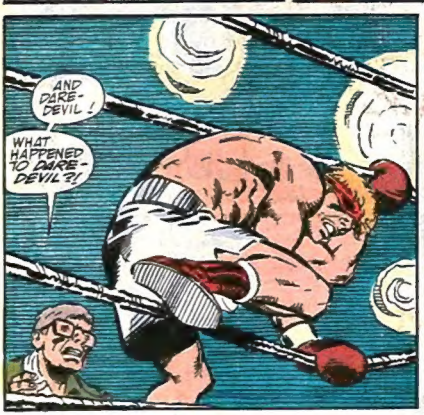

KTUCH
TURN ON TH' GAS, MAN!
WHAZZA MATTA WITH HIM?
YES. THAT'S HIM.
MATT MURDOCK. BUT HE'S USIN' JACK, HIS DAD'S NAME.
WHAT'S HE UP TO?
WATOOM
HE'S MUWDERIN' HIM!
WAKE UP, MURDOCK!
FIGHT'S OVER.
AN' THEY SAID HE WAS ANOTHER JOE LOUIS!
AWHH...
YEARS AGO THE MOB TOLD OL' DADDY JACK MURDOCK TO DO THE OL' FLIP FLOP.
IS MATT TAKING THE DIVE HIS DAD WOULDN'T?
NAH... WHAT FOR?
HE'S NOT EVEN FIGHTING.
WHY WOULD A SON RE-LIVE HIS FATHER'S HISTORY...
...AND REWRITE THE LAST ACT?
BUT... SURE LOOKS LIKE IT!

WOK

OH MY GOD.
IS HE... IS HE OUT?

MATT!
MATT, WHAT ARE YA DOING?

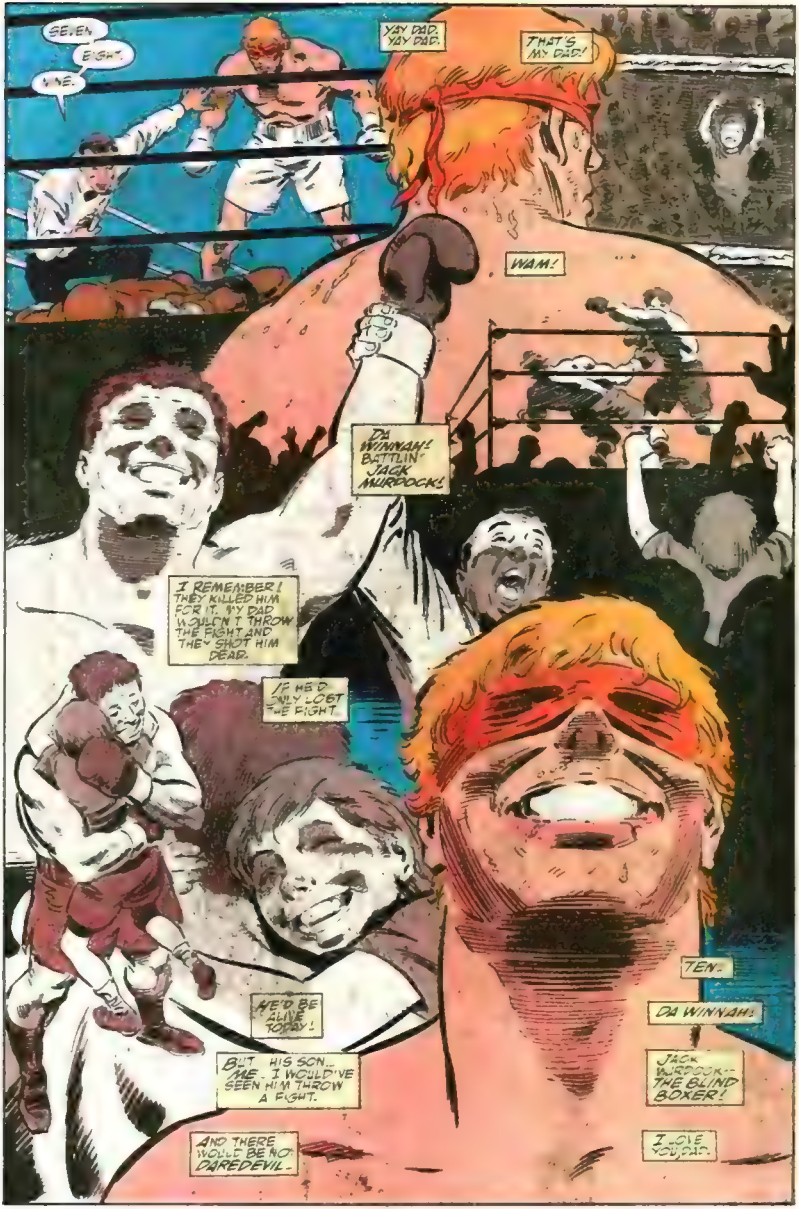
WHO'S MATT?
YOU ARE BUDDY! JACK WAS YOUR DAD!
I... I DON'T GET IT...


AND DARE-DEVIL!
WHAT HAPPENED TO DARE-DEVIL?!

Who?
WOOSH

WHO'S THAT? WHO'S CALLING ME?
HIT 'IM JACK!
COME ON, DAD!
THAT'S MY DADD.
THAT'S MY DAD.
MATT.
MY SON'S WATCHING ME!
KUSH
WOMP
POK
FOOM

HE DID IT!
A COME-BACK!
WHAT'S HE DOIN'?
I DUNNO LET'S SET UP THERE.
WOMP
HEY!
ULP.
WATCHIT--!
OH GOD.
OH GOD OH GOD OH GOD.
TROUBLE.
GONNA BE BIG TROUBLE.
JACK!
CAN YOU HEAR ME?!
WAM
WAM


SEVEN.
EIGHT.
NINE.
YAY DAD. YAY DAD.
THAT'S MY DAD!
WAM!
DA WINNAH! BATTLIN' JACK MURDOCK!
I REMEMBER! THEY KILLED HIM FOR IT. MY DAD WOULDN'T THROW THE FIGHT AND THEY SHOT HIM DEAD.
IF HE'D ONLY LOST THE FIGHT.
HE'D BE ALIVE TODAY!
BUT HIS SON... ME. I WOULD'VE SEEN HIM THROW A FIGHT.
AND THERE WOULD BE NO DAREDEVIL.
TEN.
DA WINNAH!
JACK MURDOCK-- THE BLIND BOXER!
I LOVE YOU, DAD.

MURDOCK!
WHAT A FIGHTER!
MURDOCK!
JA SEE 'IS LEFT?
'EY! QUIT GHOVIN'!
'ES A KILLA'!
MURDOCK!
LISTEN 'I ME!
...THE UN-DEFEATED BLIND BOXER!
YER A DEAD MAN IF YA DON'T ACT FAST!
DON'T WORRY COACH!
I KNOW WHO I AM NOW.
THEY CAN'T HURT ME!
THIS WAS MY LAST FIGHT.
Who?

YOU MAY NEVER SEE ME IN THE RING AGAIN...
...BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'VE STOPPED FIGHTING!
WAK
WOOMP
KRAK
EXI

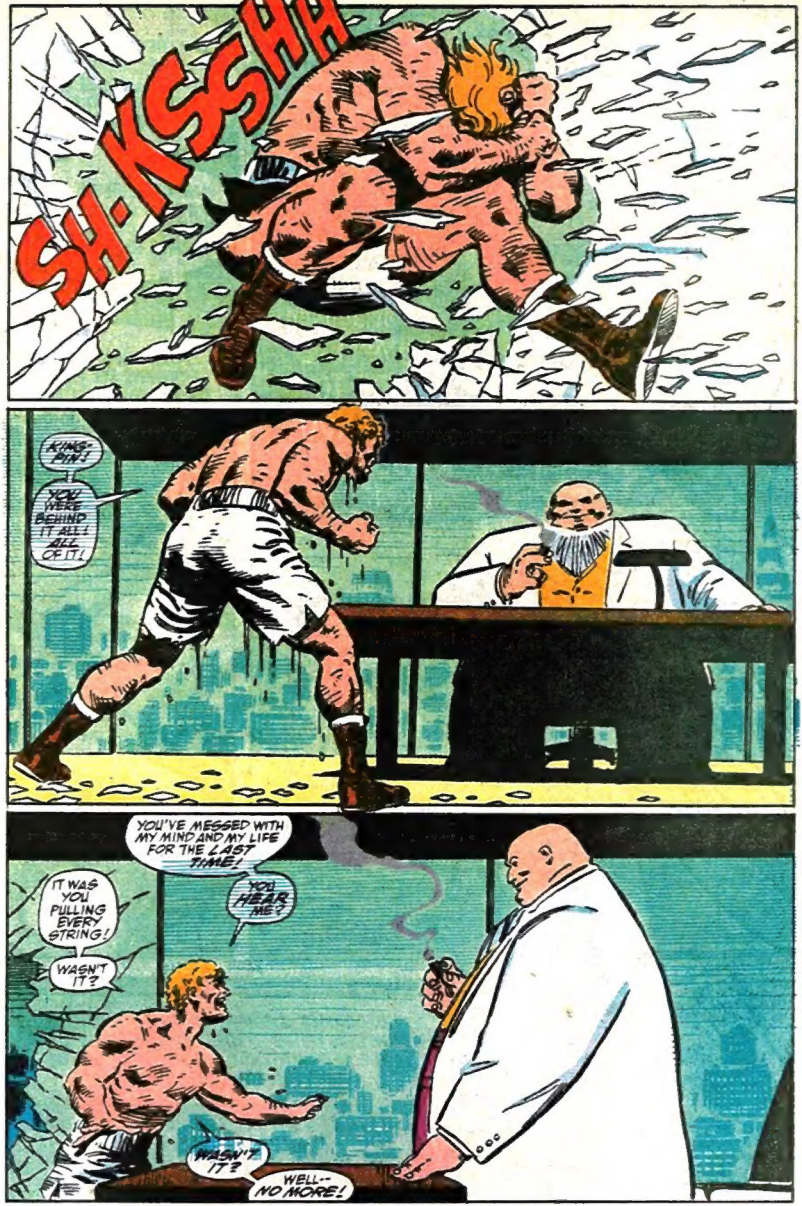
EXIT
GIVE UP MURDOCK!
YER TIRED
AN' THERE'S THREE OF US!
WOOSH
WOMP
WOK
WAKK
HE DIDN'T SEE ME.
BETTER CALL THE BOSS.
TAXI
HEY!
THUNK
THUNK

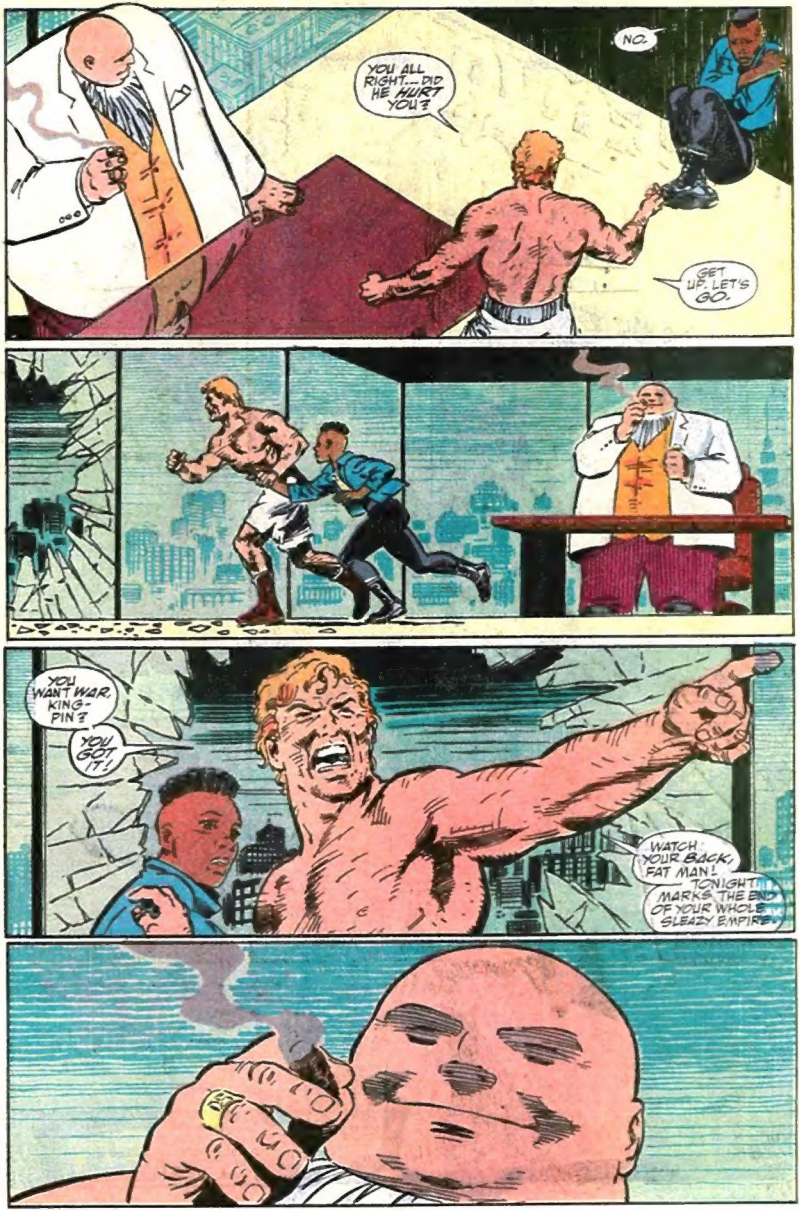
YEAH, WE BLEW IT. SET A MESSAGE TO THE KINGPIN--
MURDOCK WON THE FIGHT AN' GOT AWAY FROM US!
THAT IDIOT DOESN'T KNOW WHO'S ON HIS ROOF!
RADIO HIM!
LET'S GO!
HEY MAX!
HE'S ON YOUR BLASTED ROOF, MAX!
SKREEEEE
KKR SSH

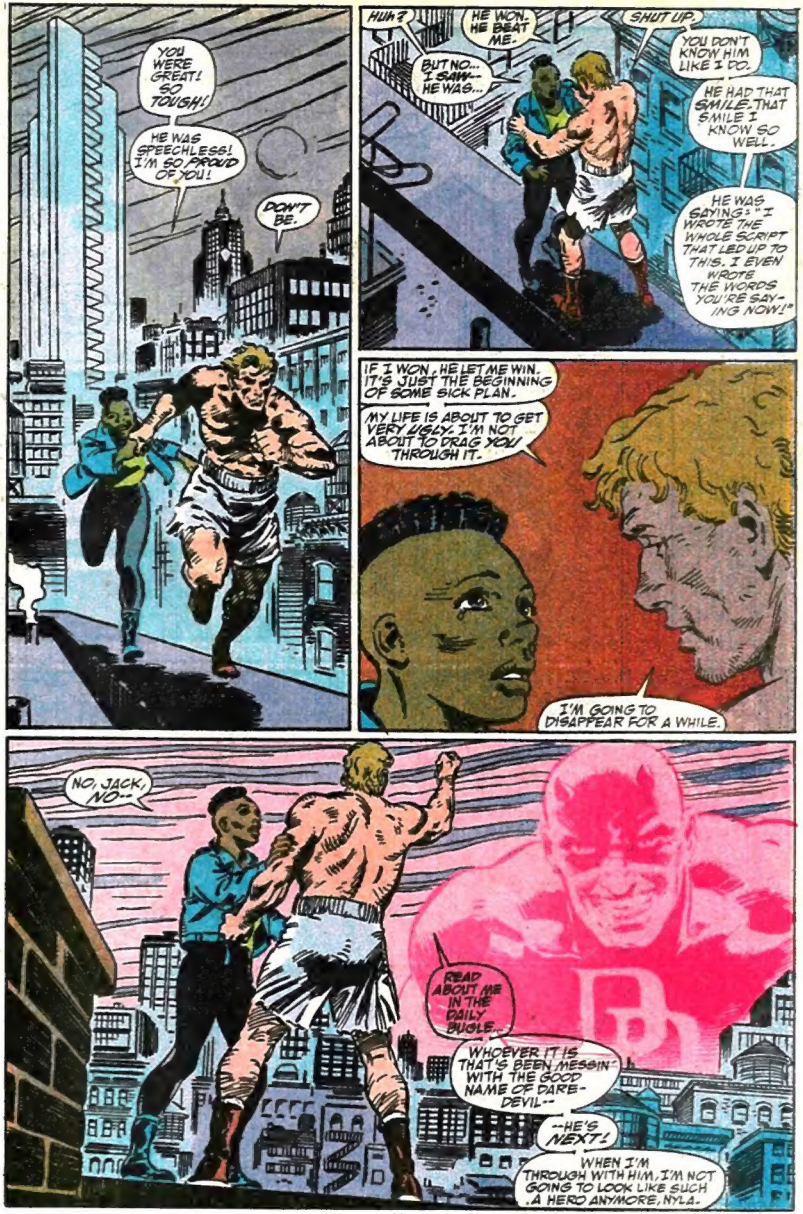
SKREE!!
SKREE!!
SSSHH
I CAN'T SEE HIM!
JUST KEEP SHOOTING!
FORGET THIS! HE MUST BE UNDER THE DOCK!
PKOW
PKOW
PKOW
I NEED BACK-UP!
I'M WITH YOU!

WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
I DUNNO. I GUESS THEY'RE DROWNING HIM!
IT'S TOO QUIET!
I DON'T LIKE IT-- IT'S TOO QUIET.
WHERE ARE THEY?
OH GOD...
SKREEEEEE
MY CAR!
BLAST IT!
PKOW
PKOW
PKOW

POW
PING
PING
MOM!!
BRK-KRSSH
SKREEEE
KA-
TOOM
THAT'S IT.
HE'S DEAD.
LET'S CALL KINGPIN.
HE DID WANT HIM DEAD, DIDN'T HE?


SH-KSSHH
KINGPIN!
YOU WERE BEHIND IT ALL! ALL OF IT!
YOU'VE MESSED WITH MY MIND AND MY LIFE FOR THE LAST TIME!
YOU HEAR ME?
IT WAS YOU PULLING EVERY STRING!
WASN'T IT?
WASN'T IT?
WELL-- NO MORE!


YOU ALL RIGHT... DID HE HURT YOU?
NO.
GET UP. LET'S GO.
YOU WANT WAR, KING-PIN?
YOU GOT IT!
WATCH YOUR BACK, FAT MAN! TONIGHT MARKS THE END OF YOUR WHOLE SLEAZY EMPIRE!


YOU WERE GREAT! SO TOUGH!
HE WAS SPEECHLESS! I'M SO PROUD OF YOU!
DON'T BE.
HUH?
HE WON. HE BEAT ME.
BUT NO... I SAW-- HE WAS...
SHUT UP.
YOU DON'T KNOW HIM LIKE I DO.
HE HAD THAT SMILE. THAT SMILE I KNOW SO WELL.
HE WAS SAYING: "I WROTE THE WHOLE SCRIPT THAT LED UP TO THIS. I EVEN WROTE THE WORDS YOU'RE SAYING NOW!"
IF I WON, HE LET ME WIN. IT'S JUST THE BEGINNING OF SOME SICK PLAN.
MY LIFE IS ABOUT TO GET VERY UGLY. I'M NOT ABOUT TO DRAG YOU THROUGH IT.
I'M GOING TO DISAPPEAR FOR A WHILE.
NO, JACK, NO--
READ ABOUT ME IN THE DAILY BUGLE.
WHOEVER IT IS THAT'S BEEN MESSIN' WITH THE GOOD NAME OF DARE-DEVIL--
--HE'S NEXT!
WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH HIM, I'M NOT GOING TO LOOK LIKE SUCH A HERO ANYMORE, NYLA.

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: EDITOR — DAN SLOTT: ASSISTANT EDITOR

c/o MARVEL COMICS—387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH—NEW YORK, NEW YORK—10016

ATTENTION CORRESPONDENTS: ALL LETTERS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS THOUGH WE WILL WITHHOLD THAT INFO BY REQUEST!

Before we get to this month's letters on DAREDEVIL #283 we just want to say that the story stirred a great deal of emotion on both sides of the issue. We've decided to let the letters run without any responses afterward. Now without further ado . . .

Dear Devil's Advocate,

I've never read DAREDEVIL on a regular basis, and after reading DAREDEVIL #283 I can't still figure out how I could have overlooked this incredible comic book.

I was never a "Devil-Head," but as I ran my fingers through the shelves and saw Captain America on the cover, I said "I gotta have it!" (I'm a big Cap fan!) And then I began to read. It literally blew me away. It gave me some of the most mixed feelings I ever had. On one hand I was upset and angry at America, because every word about how screwed up our government has become is true. I felt saddened to see Victor mistreated like so many immigrants today, with disrespect and rudeness. And on the other hand, I was happy to see that the government didn't win every battle, as seen on pages 10-12. I was also pleased to witness Victor's dream come true in the long run. That IS what America is all about.

I want to thank Ann Nocenti for showing the world and reminding us all that our country, like any other, is imperfect and can only be perfected by "We, the People!"

In closing, may I say that never again will I ignore the Man Without Fear. So, until DD's horns dull, MAKE MINE. . .well. . .you know. Thanks for everything.

Paul Coate
(Address withheld by request)

Dear Ralph,

Right off the bat I'd like to say that I was very impressed with DAREDEVIL #283. Before Ann came onto the book, I used to really enjoy every issue. Afterwards, something was missing. The stories were definitely not the same and as much as I admire John Romita Jr., his art is not appealing to my tastes. Still, I stuck with the book even though quite a few of my friends let it drop. I felt that after being with it for so long, I should give it more of a chance. There were some issues which I pushed aside with pure boredom after I read them, but every once in a while there was an interesting one. None of them matched issue #283. This one was pure heartfelt gold. Cap's anger was strangely but accurately portrayed, and it was good to see DD swinging from buildings the way he should, and looking like he should. Keep it up, I'll still be reading.

Mike Aragona
8955 14th Ave.
Montreal, Quebec
Canada H1Z 3M9

Dear Advocate,

DD #283 was the most moving comic I've ever read. The American Dream is something that everyone should dream.

On page one, where Victor is standing on the building with the flag wrapped around him saying, "America!" You could set an example and inspire the world." But what kind of example are we sending to the world — laziness, illiteracy, bureaucracy, and greed. I think it is time for America to become like Victor and re-dream the American Dream.

Also on page 30, panel 5, where Cap says, "And this is the flag I know and love," was something that almost made me cry. It really upsets me when people burn the flag a symbol of this country and as Victor says, "All eyes are on you, America. . ."

Keep up the good work!

Thomas P. Ackerman
7052 Pernod
St. Louis, MO 63139

Dear Marvel,

As a long time Daredevil fan and collector I found issue #283 to be very disappointing. It seems that Ms. Nocenti has made DAREDEVIL her personal forum for expressing her social and political views. In a span of just a couple of pages she manages to insult the police (FBI), the auto industry, the military, and the business owners and fficers — the so-called "tryannizing corporate kings." Then as Daredevil and Captain America are engaging the thugs, they say no less than three times, "We don't want to hurt you." What ever happened to the old rip-roaring Daredevil? Now he can't even punch a crook without feeling guilty.

All I wanted was to sit back and relax with a good DD mag. Instead, while reading I felt like I was in the middle of CNN's *Crossfire*. Let's be real, this is a comic book. I hope for the sake of all the other readers that Ann gets off her soapbox, and returns DAREDEVIL to an entertaining magazine.

Todd C. Sobler
633 Woodbridge Dr.
Bloomington, IN 47408

Dear Ann,

Issue #283 was another trip into the unexpected via the pages of DAREDEVIL and I loved it. I cave it to Ann Nocenti to spin a yarn concerning ideology of America and the symbol of those beliefs, the American flag.

Personally, I feel that an amendment to protect the flag is a non-issue and a waste of the taxpayers' money. The flag is a symbol that represents our beliefs as documented in the Bill of Rights. Do we really need an amendment to protect a piece of cloth? When I pay tribute to the flag I pay tribute to the beliefs that the flag represents. The flag is / nothing more than an icon which symbolizes our beliefs in a easily recognizable form.

The flag, as far as Victor is concerned, represents the American Dream. I don't think that Victor is as much concerned about the cloth that the flag is made out of but rather the ideals that it represents.

It's not very often that politics come front and center in a comic. I guess the interesting point made this issue is that you made people think about the freedoms that we enjoy in this country.

I normally don't like to get political in my letters, but I figured I would put in my two cents worth since this issue is sure to generate quite a bit of mail!

Charles S. Nowinskie
P.O. Box 1323
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Dear Advocates,

I totally loved Daredevil #283. Page 13 had me literally on the edge of my seat! Ann Nocenti, you are a fantastic writer, superb with dialogue. I really feel like the characters are alive as I read your stories. And one can't deny the excellent artwork in this issue, as well. I admire everyone who helps put this book together month after month because it is simply wonderful. Ann, don't let anyone talk you out of writing the thoughtful stories you write, as some in the letters page have suggested. You've taken me, for one, on some of the most interesting adventures ever.

Geoff Beran
817-B E. Jefferson St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

-NEXT MONTH-
THE FINAL BATTLE WITH BULLSEYE!